Nor Flood Nor Fire Will Stop Us Till We've Won

Nippon Times

Down With Tyranny in The Name of Democracy

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FREE INDIA DECLARES WAR ON BRITAIN, U.S.; THANKS JAPAN FOR AID

PREPARATION MADE FOR BIG OFFENSIVE AGAINST ASIA'S FOE

Japanese 'Bleed Them White' Tactics Prove Successful In South

ENEMY LOSSES MOUNT

Mass Attack Against United States Predicted in Very Near Future

The "bleed them white" tactics employed by the Imperial Forces on the New Guinea and Solomons Fronts which have caused fatal losses to the American and Australian forces are paving the way for a successful final offensive which will be launched in several months' time and which will surely crown Japan with ultimate victory, the Asahi commented in its Sunday issue.

Reviewing the developments of the War of Greater East Asia, the influential vernacular significantly pointed out that the current war is characterized by three stages, namely, the first stage when by the acquisition of abundant war materials in the Southern Regions during the initial period of the war, Japan established an impregnable strategic position, the second stage when with America and Britain having launched a counter-offensive following their first inactivity, the Imperial Forces have adopted all-out tactics with which to inflict heavy losses on the enemy at the minimum cost on their part, and the third and last stage when Japan will resume its offensive against the exhausted enemy forces with the fighting strength replenished during the second period.

Stressing that the present strategy is not passive, the Asahi declared that the present process of war is to "gain time" in preparation for the offensive whereby the final outcome of the hostilities is to be decided.

Brilliant Results Scored

The article follows, in gist:

"The remarkable war results hitherto scored by the Japanese Forces in the Southwestern Pacific clearly indicate the fact that the "bleed them white" tactics employed by the Japanese in their deployment operations from some of the Solomon Islands and from Buna and Salamaua, New Guinea, have proved very successful.

"The present war is featured by three stages, the first being the period from the outbreak of the war to the commencement of American counter-offensive against Japan in August, 1942. During this short space of time, the Japanese Forces not only crushed and drove away all American and British military forces from the region of Greater East Asia but also firmly secured the Southern Regions which form the warehouse of war materials. This brilliant success laid the foundation for a sure victory.

"For the last nine months since the Japanese Forces were deployed from Guadalcanal Island, the Japanese have employed "bleed them white" tactics, the object of which is to gain time by deliberately and steadily crushing the enemy's fighting strength. It is to be noted in this connection that the success of the present tactics is to a large extent due to the particular geographical features which characterize the Southwestern Pacific theater of war.

Big Losses Inflicted

"In the course of the bloody engagements on Guadalcanal Island, it may be recalled, the Japanese inflicted losses of more than 25,000 men, 230 aircraft, 30 guns and 25 tanks on the enemy, though they themselves too suffered considerable damages. During the three-month period from the end of June when the Americans landed on Rendova Island, the Imperial Forces caused the loss of more than 13,000 men around New Georgia Island, about 700 in Arundell Island and about 10,000 around Vella Lavella Island. More recently, the enemy forces sustained the loss of more than 12,000 men in the course of Japanese movements of shifting positions in New Guinea carried out during the period from the beginning of September to middle October.

"Moreover, the enemy naval forces suffered the appalling losses of 200 warships sunk or damaged, 60 other vessels sunk, 20 vessels damaged and 3,000 airplanes either shot down or crippled, in the one-year period from the first Sea Battle of the Solomons to the night Sea Battle off Kulambangra Island.

"It is noteworthy that the advance from Guadalcanal Island to Vella

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Japanese Begin New Drive To Smash China Red Army

Annihilative Blows Dealt Chen Forces Caught in Net In Taihang Range and Along Hsin River; Nanking Influence Extended

Domei

AT X X FRONT IN NORTH CHINA, October 23.—Following up the brilliant results achieved in the relentless autumn offensive against the Chinese Red army in North China, Imperial Units on October 2 suddenly commenced fresh operations under new strategic plans.

General Chen Chung's army which has been entrenched in the Taihang Range, the "roof" of North China, and along the Hsin River, has been completely encircled and is being dealt annihilative blows by the Japanese Forces.

These operations in the Taihang Range, which are part of the present autumn offensive in North China, are highly significant in many ways. Militarily, they have smashed the vanguard of General Lin Paisheng's army in the Shansi Hopei Shantung-Honan sector and thus dealt a fatal blow to the heart of the Chinese Red army.

The political significance of the operations is to be found in the fact that they have saved the inhabitants along the Hsin River and embraced them in the peace zone and that, therefore, the political power of the Nanking Government has made further progress.

This will facilitate the tapping of iron, coal, lime and other underground resources in the Taihang area, thereby adding strength to North China as a supply base.

Side by side with this economic development, the highway connecting Tatung and Puchow with Tunglu will be opened and the communication routes in central Shansi and in the Honan section of the Yellow River will be restored.

RELENTLESS ATTACK ON FOE'S FLEET TOLD

Enemy Vessels Sent to Bottom In Rapid Succession in S. Pacific Battle

By TAKEO NISHIO
Of the Navy Press Corps

AT AN X X BASE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC.—The peerless war results announced recently regarding the sinking of three cruisers, two destroyers and one large-sized transport and setting ablaze two cruisers and two small-sized transports and the heavy damage dealt two other cruisers and the shooting down of 22 planes of which eight were uncertain, must have been a source of great rejoicing to the people of Japan.

The enemy squadron which attempted a counter-offensive in the Finschhafen area, New Guinea, thus fell victim to the Japanese Air Force which scored accurate hits on the enemy vessels.

I was deeply moved by the unparalleled bravery and valor of the Japanese airmen while listening to the description of the combat by Flight Warrant Officers, K. and A. and offered silent prayers for the repose of the late Lieutenant XX and others whose lives were lost in this spectacular engagement.

"Enemy squadron visible, at XX," was the report flashed to our base on September 21. Just then a telephone bell rang impatiently. The flight commander snatched the receiver, but in the next moment he slammed the receiver down and rushed to the commander. As anticipated immediate action was ordered. One torpedo, one vessel! With that determination none of the crew members ever expected to return alive. The ground crew excitedly went about their work with the same spirit as the airmen. Everything was ready, when order to line up was issued by the commander.

The commander gave out necessary instructions and wished his subordinates success in the forthcoming aerial attack. After saluting their commander whom they expected not to see again, these airmen hurried to their respective planes. One plane after another roared into the skies in close succession.

In the air the torpedo planes and fighter craft sped quickly toward their objective. No enemy vessel came into sight. Navigating through the banks of clouds the Japanese formation turned to the left. Just then the enemy squadron composed of some transports escorted on the right and left by destroyers as well as by cruisers hove into sight. Maintaining high speed, the planes caught up with the enemy vessels. The first plane then signaled to attack. Then all the planes dived down at break-neck speed. The enemy ships as soon as they became aware of the Japanese planes turned confusedly into all directions, showing the frantic dismay which had gripped the enemy crew. However, the enemy guns belched helplessly. The surface of the sea was shrouded with smoke while water columns shot up here and there. Nothing daunted, the Japanese planes continued their attack in unbroken formation.

"Cruisers and large-sized destroyers!" The eyes of the Japanese crew were screwed on the enemy vessels.

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SHONAN HEADS HAIL FREE INDIA REGIME

Seen Start of Last Phase of Freedom Fight; Success Of Move Foreseen

Domei

SHONAN, October 23.—The establishment of the Provisional Government of Free India under Subhas Chandra Bose is hailed by local community leaders here as beginning the last phase of the Indians' struggle to oust the Anglo-American Powers from India.

The community leaders congratulated the Indians on achieving the establishment of their own government through their own efforts, and for having Mr. Bose to lead them to victory.

"India should have been free long ago," commented the Eurasian leader Dr. Cjpaglar. He added: "With the declaration of independence by Burma and the Philippines the early realization of India's national freedom is possible under the inspired leadership of Mr. Bose. With the utmost cooperation from Japan and other East Asiatic nations the Indian independence movement is assured success."

"The formal establishment of the Provisional Government of Free India is not only a matter for felicitation, but is a matter deserving the utmost support of the brother nations in Greater East Asia," declared Lim Chong-pang, council member of the Overseas Chinese Association. He added "People with foresight will not find it difficult to see the actual dawn of Indian indepedence just as they had foreseen the independence of Burma and the Philippines and the attainment of full sovereignty by China.

"We Chinese are keenly looking forward to the day when the aspirations of the Indians will have been fully realized and India occupies its rightful place in the comity of nations."

Congratulating the Indians on the establishment of the Provisional Government, Onan Bin Siraj, local Malai leader, stated that the Malais generally shared the feeling of the Indians in East Asia who are prepared to lay down their lives and sacrifice everything for the liberation of India.

The Malai leader asserted that he is fully confident of the outcome of the struggle the Indian National Army would wage shortly against the Anglo-American Powers, just as he is sure of the ultimate victory of Japan in the war.

GERMAN NAVY SINKS 2 ENEMY WARCRAFT

1 Destroyer Damaged in Fight Off Brittany

Domei

BERLIN, October 23.—German light warships which encountered a British fleet consisting of cruisers and destroyers off Brittany, France, yesterday evening, sank an enemy cruiser with four torpedo hits and caused severe damage to two destroyers, one of which is considered to have been sunk, German military authorities announced today. The Reich warships suffered no damage.

P.I. ASSEMBLY ENDS MOMENTOUS SESSION; PASSES MANY LAWS

Commodity Price Committee Created—Relief Fund Bill Approved

TO MEET AGAIN NOV. 25

October 14 Set Aside by Philippine Government as National Holiday

Domei

MANILA, October 24.—The last day of the six-day special session of the Philippine National Assembly opened at 10 a.m. yesterday and adjourned at 6:48 p.m. with an expression of thanks by President Jose P. Laurel. The assiduity with which deliberations were conducted is attested by the fact that there was only a one-hour recess.

Ten odd bills have been deferred for deliberation at the ordinary session scheduled for November 25, this being due to the inclusion of entirely new items in the agenda for the day.

The passage of the Relief Fund bill is probably the only outstanding instance where the new administrative policies enunciated in President Laurel's inaugural speech has been acted upon.

A Commodity Price Committee was appointed at the present session and will submit its report at the forthcoming regular session, and it is expected that deliberations at the next session will center on bills aiming at self-sufficiency and economic reorganization.

National Holiday Created

Domei

MANILA, October 23.—A bill for the establishment of October 14 as a national holiday of the Philippines was presented at the special session of the Philippine National Assembly and was unanimously passed.

Designated as "the Day of the Republic of the Philippines" under the bill, October 14 will be a day of nation-wide celebration each year to commemorate the proclamation of independence.

Bills Reviewed

Domei

MANILA, October 23.—Scheduled to wind up the special six-day session today, the National Assembly is expected to act on the remaining business administration program dealing chiefly with appropriation of funds.

The most important measures pending final approval of the legislative body before its adjournment is the appropriation of 10,000,000 pesos for reconstruction and rehabilitation work.

Other pending legislations include such executive matters as determination of arms and the Great Seal of the Republic and fixing of

(Continued on Page 2)

83RD DIET SESSION TO CONVENE TODAY; 14 VITAL BILLS SET

Extraordinary Meeting to Last For 3 Days; All Preparations Made

WORK TO BE SPEEDED UP

Proceedings to Be Centered on 3 Epochal Reforms in Administration

The 83rd extraordinary session of the Imperial Diet opens today and will last for three days. Fourteen legislative bills, including the bill relative to a Munitions Companies Act, will be introduced.

The drafting of these bills, as well as the drafting of the administrative policy statement by the Prime Minister, was completed by the Government at the regular Cabinet meeting on Friday. Likewise, preliminary deliberations by both Houses were completed on Saturday.

The present session has been convened to enlist the nation's support of the epochal administrative reforms announced by the Government on September 22. The reforms got definitely under way with the Government decision on September 28 to establish the Munitions Ministry.

The reforms, as has already been made clear by the Government, aim at the carrying out of three fundamental national policies, namely, (1) tightening of unity between the Command and the Administration, (2) placing of the domestic structure on a decisive war footing and (3) execution of a vigorous foreign policy.

In order to expedite matters, speeches by the Finance and Foreign Ministers will be dispensed with and incorporated in the Prime Minister's policy statement.

Unusual importance is attached to the present session at which the whole nation—the military, Government and people—is expected to converge into one ball of fire to carry the sacred campaign to a brilliant conclusion.

GERMANS BLAST LONDON

Direct Hits Scored on Objectives; Other Areas Raided

Domei

BERLIN, October 23.—Bomber units of the Luftwaffe raided London on Friday night and, defying intense enemy fire, made direct hits on selected objectives, causing damages and casualties, German Air Force authorities announced today.

Meanwhile, other units attacked eastern, southeastern and southwestern England.

Decline in Britain's Power Seen As Drawback at Moscow Parley

Tribune Deplores Dependence on America—Fears Soviets Will Have the Strongest Voice at Conference in Red Capital

Domei

LISBON, October 23.—In connection with the Moscow Conference, the British weekly magazine, Tribune, sounded warning that Britain must be careful lest it should be crushed between the two strong Powers, America and the Soviet Union.

"Of the three main Powers in the anti-Axis camp," states the Tribune, "Britain is the weakest. As the Soviet Union maintains a strong voice in the present Moscow parley on the basis of her enormous military strength, all diplomatic plans will prove ineffective against the military claims of the Soviets.

"The sparse population and increased dependence of foreign imports have weakened Britain. Especially has Churchill's policy critically increased Britain's dependence on the United States. We must be well aware of the fact that if Britain continues to follow its present policy, it will have to continue to depend upon America in the future and the British Empire will have to depend on long sea routes dominated by overwhelmingly superior American military and naval strength.

"From these reasons, it is obvious that Britain is unable to maintain equal voice alongside the Soviet Union and America. The United States will interfere in everything in the future. The British who are now welcoming anti-isolationism in America within the next decade regret their action."

Meet on Oct. 22

Domei

STOCKHOLM, October 23.—Anglo-American-Soviet representatives for the three-Power foreign ministers' conference sat in another parley at 3 p.m. on October 22 at the Guest Hall of the Kremlin, presided over by Soviet Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav M. Molotov.

Regarding the results of the Moscow Conference, a Reuter correspondent reports that the British delegation has revealed that so far the conference has been devoted mainly to military problems.

The parley has been set for two weeks but considering the rapid progress of debates, it will be brought to a close earlier than scheduled.

Eden Sees Stalin

Domei

LISBON, October 23.—British Foreign Secretary Major R. Anthony Eden conferred with Premier Josef

(Continued on Page 2)

Promise of Aid to S. Bose Is Made by Envoy Sawada

Ambassador Says Formation of Provisional Regime Assures Victory for Freedom Fighters; Lauds Indian National Army

Domei

RANGOON, October 23.—Ambassador Renzo Sawada to Burma today issued a statement pledging Japan's full support to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. Salient features of Ambassador Sawada's statement are as follows:

"The Provisional Government of Azad Hind, with Subhas Chandra Bose as its head, was established at Shonan on October 21. The Imperial Japanese Government recognized it on October 23. The Provisional Government is the first and only independent Government of the Indians ever since India was made British territory. It is not an exaggeration to say, therefore, that the Indian independence movement has made another step toward its goal, and that the success of the movement has been assured. In that respect, we can imagine the joy of the Indian people.

"The mission of the Provisional Government is to oust Anglo-American influence from India. In the event of the attainment of this objective, the Provisional Government of Free India will be superseded by a National Government of India, which will be established by the free will of all the Indian people.

"The Provisional Government is headed by Mr. Bose, the highest leader of the Indian independence movement, and is backed by the total spiritual and material power of the Indian people. It also has the Indian National Army which is excellently equipped, well-trained and virile in fighting spirit. Thus, the Provisional Government has a very bright future.

"It has been the ideal of Japan since the founding of the Empire to let various nations seek their proper places in the sun and enjoy their rights. Japan has offered full support to the Indian independence movement. Japan's pledge is based on morality, and as such was not motivated by any territorial or economic ambitions. This was made clear by Japan's new China policy and the granting of independence to Burma and the Philippines. Thus, Japan's moral policy cannot be compared with Anglo-American imperialism.

"The truth is not far to seek. At the time of World War I Britain promised to give India the status of a self-governing dominion, but, when the war ended, Britain forgot its promises. The Atlantic Charter is publicized as the war objective of the Anglo-Saxons, but India is not permitted to share the 'privilege' of this mirage-like commitment. This fact is an eloquent testimony of the deceitful Anglo-Saxon policy.

"As long as Anglo-American influence exists in India, the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere will be exposed to menace from the West. Burma is continguous to India. In taking this into consideration, all the nations in Greater East Asia, not to mention Burma, are ready to give their full support to the Provisional Government of Free India and the Indian independence movement."

Army in New Guinea Crosses Somu River; Bridgeheads Formed

Domei

LISBON, October 23.—The Japanese Forces now fighting in the Huon Peninsula, New Guinea, seem to have succeeded in crossing the Somu River north of Finschhafen. A telegram from Melbourne states that the Japanese Forces have secured several bridgeheads on the southern bank of the river and are engaged in a severe battle with the Australian forces.

OIL IN MIDDLE EAST AND INDIA REVEALED

Daily Output Said to Be 345,200 Barrels

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, October 21.—The Wartime Oil Board of the United States today announced the oil output in the areas controlled by the anti-Axis nations as follows:

"The output in Middle Asia and India averages 345,200 barrels a day. This amount is about 8 per cent of the daily production of America. Of the total, 79.54 per cent is held by Britain."

These figures have been kept secret, but the sudden announcement of them is prompted by the controversy on the world's oil resources and wartime consumption, which arose as a result of the recent return of the U.S. Senators from the war front. The Wartime Oil Board apparently is planning to place the position of the United States Government to better light by announcing these figures.

Presents Credentials

Domei

MOSCOW, October 23.—Averell Harriman, newly appointed United States Ambassador to Moscow, presented his credentials to Mikhail L. Kalinin, Chief of the Soviet Presidium today.

Morgenthau Off for Italy

Domei

LISBON, October 23.—The United States Secretary of Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr. who is now on an inspection trip in the Mediterranean area, left Malta for Italy yesterday.

THAKIN NU PLEDGES HELP TO FREE INDIA

Denounces British Rule—Looks Forward to Early Independence

Domei

RANGOON, October 23.—On behalf of Burma, which has been keeping in constant touch with the Indian independence movement, Foreign Minister Thakin Nu of the Burmese Government issued a statement emphasizing that Burma is wholeheartedly prepared to offer every convenience to the Indian independence movement. His statement runs substantially as follows:

"To the Burmese nation the matter of the greatest concern second to the accomplishment of its independence is realization of Indian independence. The founding of the Provisional Government has elicited great repercussions in the world.

"India has been under political shackles longer than Burma. The British who came to India in the disguise of merchants have looted India and became its rulers. Britain has imposed corporal punishment on Indians who defied British rule even to a slight degree. They interfered with religious worship of the Indian people in spite of their outward policy of freedom of faith.

"Through systematic British exploitation India has been miserably impoverished. The starvation and epidemics prevalent in Bengal have resulted from Britain's violent policy.

"Mr. Subhas C. Bose and other Indian patriots have succeeded in unifying various factions in Greater East Asia, and winning Japan's cooperation. The Indian Independence League has succeeded in collecting a large fund and fighting men and military equipment through Mr. Bose's fiery enthusiasm and determination. All nations respecting fair play and justice—the basis for new world order—will not grudge their full support to the Provisional Government of Free India."

Rommel Inspects Forts

Domei

BERLIN, October 23.—Marshal Erwin Rommel, Commander-in-Chief of the German forces in North Italy, today inspected the fortresses along the Italo-Reich border, it is reported from Milan.

Bose Reviews National Army at Shonan

GIVES FIERY SPEECH

Lieutenant-General Kawabe Congratulates Birth of Azad Hind Government

Domei

SHONAN, October 24.—The Provisional Government of Azad Hind at its urgent Cabinet meeting at the official residence of Nethaji Subhas Chandra Bose at midnight Saturday decided on a declaration of war against Britain and the United States and on an expression of its gratitude to Japan for the latter's recognition of the Provisional Government.

These decisions were reached after careful deliberation and exchange of unreserved opinion.

Broadcasts Government Decision

Domei

SHONAN, October 24.—Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, broadcast the Government's decision to declare war on Britain and the United States over the radio at 12:55 a.m. today, making clear its attitude to smash these enemy countries in order to liberate India in concert with the East Asiatic nations and Indian compatriots.

Notifies Japan

Domei

SHONAN, October 24.—Upon making public the declaration of war on Britain and the United States at 12:55 a.m. today, Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, immediately notified Japan to this effect. The declaration follows:

"The Provisional Government of Azad Hind hereby declares war on Britain and the United States.

"Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind."

Bose Reviews Troops

Domei

SHONAN, October 24.—Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, in the capacity of Head and Director of the Military Department of the Provisional Government, reviewed the Indian National Army in the square in front of the Shonan Special Municipal Building at 10:30 a.m. today.

Clad in a simple uniform, Mr. Bose appeared on the scene at the appointed time accompanied by his staff officers, and was greeted by the entire Army with "Present arms."

Then, following review of all units present, Mr. Bose made a fiery speech. The function ended at 11:30 a.m.

Kawabe Greets Free India

Domei

RANGOON, October 23.—Supreme Commander Lieutenant-General Masakazu Kawabe of the Japanese Army Forces in the Burma area, in a statement issued in connection with the founding of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind with Subhas Chandra Bose as its head, heartily congratulated its birth and emphasized that he will grudge no effort for the support of the Provisional Government. The gist of Supreme Commander Kawabe's statement follows:

"On October 21 the Provisional Government of Free India was founded with Subhas Chandra Bose, who had been carefully planning the independence of his motherland while in Germany, as its head. Only a little more than four months ago, his sudden arrival in Japan had attracted world-wide attention. That he has established the Provisional Government is indeed a matter of great felicitation.

"Both Burma and the Philippines have already achieved their long-waited independence and now the Provisional Government of Free India has just been founded. This is nothing but the manifestation of Japan's lofty ideal of making all nations find their proper places.

"The oldest and highest culture of the world perished in India with the British intrusion. All this at-

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RELENTLESS ATTACK ON FOE'S FLEET TOLD

(Continued from Page 1)

They had no thought of returning alive. A high pillar of water rose sky-high only a few meters ahead of the formation. No time was lost! One torpedo was discharged which dashed toward its target. Turning round the pilot saw an enemy Lockheed skimming past his plane. One comrade plane was seen consumed in flames. Another enemy plane was about to pounce on the first Japanese plane while another of the Japanese planes swooped on the enemy plane with an agility of a hawk.

Lo! One, two, three, four and five hits were scored on the enemy vessels. But no time was left for rejoicing because enemy planes came tenaciously attacking. A fierce aerial combat ensued only XX meters above the face of the water. One after another the Japanese planes were enveloped by devouring fire and immediately they self-blasted themselves against the enemy vessels. More fire and water columns crisscrossed in the air. During the course of this gripping aerial combat an XX number of enemy planes were shot down and the remaining ones took to their heels while the vessels which escaped the fatal torpedo hits disappeared from the fighting zone.

The land crew impatiently awaited the return of their comrades. The news of the successful feat was flashed by wire. Overjoyed, the land crew beamed with gratitude and pride. Sometime elapsed after the report, but none of the planes returned. "Keep your eye on the sky in that direction," someone ordered. Presently the faint droning of one of the planes was heard overhead. "XX plane," reported the watchout. The plane skidded to a halt. The plane was found riddled with 75 bullet holes, but all the members of the crew except one who was slightly wounded came out of the plane with flushed faces

Another plane returned, panting heavily with countless bullet holes on its fuselage and the left wing half-burnt. It was reported that the tank was set ablaze and the crew exerted its all to put out the fire. Reports on the war results were made by each plane, contrary to the usual habit of making reports after all the planes had returned.

The enemy squadron was almost completely destroyed. The commander, while listening to the reports, kept his ears alert for any sound of returning planes. The time scheduled for the planes to return passed. Sixteen planes did not return. Secretly hoping for a miracle, the Japanese airmen stood in the airfield far into the night, their lone figures clearly silhouetted in the faint light. The Japanese side accomplished a glorious feat, but not without a sacrifice.

P.I. Assembly Ends Momentous Session; Passes Many Laws

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salaries of government officials and employees.

Yesterday's bill, setting November 25 as the date of the opening of the regular session this year and October 20 every year after that, was approved, while the resolution creating a seven-man committee to investigate the price of prime commodities was also unanimously approved.

Fixing of the opening of the first regular session of the National Assembly a month from now, will enable government officials who are members of the legislative body to return to provinces and cities to straighten out important matters which may have cropped up during their stay in Manila.

When the Assembly reconvenes for the regular session, it will meet for 60 days, exclusive of Sundays and holidays, according to constitutional provisions.

It is recalled that the present special session, which will end today, was called by the President for a six-day period, to deliberate on general legislation requiring immediate attention.

The final day session resumed at 10:00 a.m. when a final discussion was held and decisions reached on administration bills prior to the adjournment.

Okubo to Leave Hungary

Domei

BERLIN, October 23.—Japanese Minister to Hungary Toshitaka Okubo, his staff members and several other Japanese will leave for home, now that they have been given permission to pass through the Soviet Union.

R.A.F. Loses 44 Bombers

Domei

STOCKHOLM, October 23.—The British Air Ministry today announced that the Royal Air Force lost 44 bombers in a bombing raid on Cassel, West Germany, on the night of October 22, according to a London report.

Women of India Today Inspired By Lakshmi Bai's Freedom Fight

Passed Away 85 Years Ago in Heat of Battle—Set Undying Example for People Who Are Now Engaged in War of Independence

Domei

SHONAN, October 23.—Eighty-five years ago, Rani of Jhansi, one of the most ambitious and undaunted woman disappeared from the political firmament of India in her drive against alien domination.

Hers was a meteoric career, having met with death at the age of 23. During her short period of reign over Jhansi she displayed qualities of statesmanship and capability for administration and organization which elicited praise even from her British adversaries.

As a soldier she was not an organizer or a strategist but a dashing cavalry leader who rode straight through the enemy camp.

Rani of Jhansi—Lakshmi Bai—was born at Benares, on October 21, 1835 to Moropant Tambe who at that time was serving one of the many Mahratta chiefs who lost his power due to the East India Company's conquests.

Gangadhar Rao, at that time Raja of Jhansi, having heard of Lakshmi Bai's beauty, married her. The Raja begot a child by her in 1851, in the days when the East India Company was spreading its tentacles in one big state after state with one pretext or another.

The child died three months after its birth. The Raja died immediately afterwards and the grief of Rani was beyond words. She adopted another child but Lord Alhousi, the then British Governor-General disapproved of it and ordered the annexation of Jhansi.

A large regiment was stationed in the Fort of Jhansi and administration was carried on by the Company's servant.

The outbreak of the first war of Indian Independence in 1857—called by the British as the Sepoy Mutiny—gave Rani a much awaited-for opportunity and when the whole of North India was caught in a maelstorm, Jhansi unfurled its flag of independence and massacred all British officers and men.

Having received reinforcements by sea, an army of 60,000 Britishers under Sir Hugh Rose, marched to Jhansi, besieged the fort and demanded Rani's surrender. Unable to suffer from this effrontery and aspersion on her honor and reputation, she defied the British commander's orders, mustered her army and fought.

The British army suffered enormously as soon as it set foot on the soil of Jhansi, for the whole land surrounding Jhansi was laid waste by order of the queen, so that the enemy might have no supplies.

Attired in a General's uniform and mounted on her white steed, the Rani of Jhansi personally encouraged the soldiers.

Once when the enemy were able to create a breach in ramparts, she herself stepped in the breach and backed everyone who scaled the wall until help came.

At last outnumbered, she boldly broke through besieging British lines and escaped to Kalpi, a distance of over 100 miles on horseback with her adopted son on her back.

With the help of Peshwa she raised an army and fought the British for the second time. Through treachery, she was again forced to flee to Gwalior, but through appeals to patriotic sentiment and the national spirit of Peshwa she was able to raise another army.

This army under her personal leadership, marched to the banks of Kalindi (Jumna) and touching holy waters of the river, she swore to take no rest until freedom had been established.

The British fought desperately and fortune was against Rani. Once again she was forced to escape from the battlefield. Hotly pursued by the British she was overtaken near a flowing rill over which her new horse refused to jump.

She was struck from behind, but before she fell she killed her assailant. Thus died one of the bravest and noblest woman of India.

TAYUEH WAR GAINS REVEALED BY ARMY

China Reds Leave 4,439 Dead on Battlefields

By Arrangement with the Asahi
(Special to the Nippon Times)

AT A NORTH CHINA FRONT, October 23.—Continuing annihilative attacks against the Chinese Red army in the Tayueh sector, the Imperial Units in the Shansi area have scored the following ascertained results between October 2, the date of the commencement of the current operations, and October 22:

Dead bodies left behind by the enemy—4,439.

Prisoners—745.

Military establishments destroyed (including munitions factories, clothing depots and provisions depots)—42.

Trophies of war:

Mountain gun—1.

Heavy and light machine-guns—41.

Grenade-throwers—8.

Rifles—1,192.

Revolvers (including automatic rifles)—172.

Hand-grenades—5,469.

Innumerable quantities of ammunition, communication materials, clothing, provisions, etc. were also captured.

MOSCOW WEATHER TOO COLD FOR HULL

Is Running Around With Slight Cold

Domei

STOCKHOLM, October 23.—United States Secretary of State Cordell Hull, who is now in Moscow as the American delegate at the Anglo-American-Soviet foreign ministers' conference, has caught a slight cold but his condition is not so serious as to hinder the execution of his duties, according to a Moscow report.

Following his interview with Chungking Ambassador to Moscow Fu Ping-chang, Hull is expected to see the Mexican Ambassador and the representatives of the Czechoslovakian and Jugoslavian refugee regimes.

Another report reveals that all discussions regarding military problems at the three-Power conference have been ended.

Burma Gives Gift to Army

Domei

RANGOON, October 24.—The Burmese Government has decided to make a monetary contribution to the Japanese Army for the manufacturing of three fighter planes as a token of thanks for the latter's wholehearted support of Burma.

Lloyd George, 80, Ex-British Premier, Marries Secretary

Domei

LISBON, October 23.—Ex-British Prime Minister David Lloyd George, 80 years old, was today married to Miss Frances L. Stevenson, his 55-year-old secretary, in a ceremony held at Surrey, south of London. Miss Stevenson has been Lloyd George's secretary since 1913. She accompanied him to the Versailles Peace Conference and was known then for her beauty. Lloyd George's former wife died in 1941.

Azad Hind Declares War on Asia's Foes

(Continued from Page 1)

tests to the greedy and insatiable invasion and exploitation policy of Britain and the United States, a fact which is widely known in the world. As long as these countries are entrenched in India, the peace and happiness of the 400,000,000 Indian people cannot be realized forever.

"Only by eliminating completely the Anglo-American influences from its domain will India be restored to her former self. Herein lies the objective of the Provisional Government of Free India. Fortunately, the Provisional Government possesses a strong force—the Indian National Army led by Mr. Bose.

"We expect to exterminate without fail our common enemies, the United States and Britain, in concert with the Indian National Army. I am firmly confident that the time will not be very distant when India will be completely independent and I deeply pray that such a day of glory will arrive as quickly as possible."

BRITISH INFLUENCE AT MEETING WEAK

(Continued from Page 1)

Stalin for two hours yesterday evening.

In this connection, a British correspondent in Moscow reports that in the conference, Eden handed Prime Minister Winston Churchill's letter to Premier Stalin.

British correspondents are spreading optimistic views regarding the relations among the Anglo-American-Soviet Powers, asserting that the personal meeting between Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin will be realized within this year. Meanwhile, the Moscow correspondent for the Times, London, reported that the Moscow Conference will mark the beginning of a new stage in the relations among the anti-Axis nations.

Hull Talks With Fu

Domei

STOCKHOLM, October 23.—British Foreign Secretary Major R. Anthony Eden met Soviet Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav M. Molotov in a private conference on the night of October 22, the fourth day of the Moscow Conference, it is reported from the Soviet capital.

Eden is reported to have conferred wtih Foreign Commissar Molotov in regard to the results of the conference he had held with Premier Josef Stalin on the previous day.

United States Secretary of State Cordell Hull met Chungking Ambassador to Moscow Fu Ping-chang this morning with whom he conferred for half an hour.

Reich Views on Parley

Domei

BERLIN, October 23.—Regarding the Anglo-American-Soviet foreign ministers' conference now in progress in Moscow, German official circles remain relatively silent, refraining from making any definite comment.

These circles today simply revealed their views that Premier Josef Stalin seem to be desiring to show that the Kremlin is placing much importance on military questions at the Moscow Conference inasmuch as he is reported to have met British and American delegates, clad in the uniform of Soviet Field Marshal.

Meanwhile, the Reich Foreign Office spokesman made the following statement today:

"The United States and Britain are propagandizing to the effect that German authorities have expressed the view that the Moscow parley would prove a failure due to the difference of opinions among the three countries concerned. Germany, however, has never revealed such an opinion.

"We have only pointed out that Britain and the United States have so far been reluctant to show to the world the fact that the Anglo-American-Soviet Powers are completely agreed regarding the future destiny of Europe. We have also pointed out that they are well aware of the fact that if they confirm the above point, it will exert bad effect on the various exiled regimes in Europe."

FUJIHARA INSTITUTE IS ABSORBED BY KEIO

To Be Made Department Of University

The Fujihara Institute of Technology, founded by Ginjiro Fujihara, Cabinet adviser, has been absorbed by Keio University and will be made one of the latter's departments. The new department will be enlarged in substance and equipment.

The matter was decided upon, as a result of direct negotiations between Mr. Fujihara and Dr. Shinzo Koizumi, president of Keio University and president of the Institute, a few days ago, and was formally announced on Saturday. This Institute was established in May 1939, at Hiyoshidai, Kanagawa Prefecture. It has 800 students and 60 professors and lecturers. Mr. Fujihara paid ¥8,000,000 out of his private funds for the founding of this Institute.

'Sun Riseth Over Sea' Chosen Poetry Theme For New Year Party

"The Sun Riseth Over the Sea" has been selected as the theme for the annual New Year Imperial Poetry Party for 1944, it was learned on Saturday. The selection of this theme, which is symbolical of Japan's grandiose mission, is particularly significant at this time because a new era of mutual well-being and common prosperity is about to dawn in East Asia under Japan's aegis.

Preparation Made For Big Offensive Against Asia's Foe

(Continued from Page 1)

Lavella Island and the drive from Buna to Lae in New Guinea were all that the United States managed to achieve during the last 15 months at the expense of enormous war materials and lives. It would not be too much to say that the wound which America has received can be compared, not to a mere cut on the limbs, but to a case of fatal hemoptysis.

"As can be understood from the above review, the bleeding tactics employed by the Imperial Forces is a positive one intended to drive the enemy to a critical condition. The prime object of this strategy is to gain time for replenishing our fighting capacity in preparation for the second offensive which will decide the ultimate outcome of the war."

Medical Triumphs Of Japanese Army

(Continued from Page 4)

duced to the extent of 90 per cent of the total world output in Java. Japan now controls this supply.

REPORTER: Up to now we have been speaking mostly of the South, but could you expound a little upon the Army's medical war in the north?

HIRAGA: During the Manchurian Incident, our forces were greatly hampered by frostbites. For, up to that time, we had had little experience along that line and frostbites were totally unexpected. Today, our knowledge has been greatly expanded, and counter-measures have been taken.

OSUZU: Although the Finnish troops do not seem to have very adequate anti-cold equipment, they seem to be very much immune to low temperature. I think that the Japanese too, when two or three generations of them have lived in Manchoukuo will build up a much stronger resistence to the cold. However, no matter how accustomed one is to the freezing weather, when the temperature drops to 40 degrees below zero, and a piercing 8-meter wind blows over the snow and ice, anyone's skin will become frost-bitten. But chilblains can be prevented.

HIRAGA: The vital part taken by aircraft in medical work is the same in the Army and in the Navy, I think. In the duties of our health units, the use of the aircraft has become very important. In connection with this. . . .

TAKAURA: In this war, the transportation of the wounded by air is being conducted extensively. Of course, this has been done from the time of the Manchurian Incident.

OSUZU: In the European War, it is said that the wounded on the Polish front were removed to temporary hospitals in Berlin in four hours. This is possible because the European Continent is not very large. .

TAKAURA: I think that this is a problem which requires the most consideration in the future.

HIRAGA: Perhaps it won't be very long before those wounded in the Solomons may be transported directly to Tokyo. At any rate, the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere is extremely vast, and in this continent there exists every disease known to man. Against this, we must find all possible methods to combat our greatest enemy, illness. We firmly believe that on the medical front too, we will surely be victorious against the enemy.

The Past Week in Review

Enemy Subjected to Fierce Attacks in South Pacific

Carrying out a surprise attack on an enemy convoy anchored in Buna Bay of New Guinea Island on the morning of October 15, Imperial Navy Air Units sank four large-sized enemy transports and damaged and set fire to one medium-sized transport. They also shot down more than 14 planes of an enemy formation of more than 100 which attempted to intercept them.

Moreover, in operations in the New Guinea area, Imperial Army and Navy Air Units from September 1 up to the present sank and damaged 74 enemy warships, including 10 cruisers and eight destroyers, 39 transports and an innumerable number of barges, and shot down 164 enemy aircraft.

Meanwhile, General MacArthur's Southwest Pacific Headquarters admitted that the Japanese Forces have scored successes in their counter-offensive operations launched in the Finschhafen area in New Guinea.

Army Air Units Blast 124 Foe Planes in China

From late July to the early part of October, Japanese Army Air Units shot down and damaged 124 enemy planes and blasted 17 airfields and military establishments in 53 attacks against the enemy air strength in China, according to a communique issued by the Imperial Headquarters early last week. The assaults were directed particularly against American air bases.

During the same period, the Japanese Air Units also sank seven enemy vessels and damaged 11 others.

Lt.-Gen. Nakazono Killed In Action Over China Skies

Lieutenant-General Moritaka Nakazono, Commander of a first-line air corps in China, was killed in action aboard a plane while commanding air operations in the South China area in early September, the War Ministry announced on October 19. As the commander of a first-line air corps, since June, 1942, he had commanded the Japanese Army Air Units in China and had served meritoriously, completely sealing the furtive activity of the American air force in China, and smashing the enemy's hopes to raid Japan Proper.

Lieutenant-Colonel Taro Miyasawa and Major Masumi Takada, staff officers of the Lieutenant-General's air corps, who were aboard the same plane, were also killed in action at the same time.

Free India Government Established Under Bose

The establishment of the Provisional Government of Free India was announced by Subhas Chandra Bose, president of the Indian Independence League, on October 21, at a conference of all the representatives of the League in East Asia, which was opened at the Greater East Asia Theater in Shonan.

Immediately following the establishment of the Provisional Government, Subhas Bose was elected head of the Provisional Government.

The Provisional Government of Free India is expected to go into action immediately for the attainment of complete freedom for India, leading the 400,000,000 Indian people within the country and in the various regions within Greater East Asia.

Chiang Forces Lose Heavily

Six hundred enemy dead abandoned and 210 prisoners captured were among the war results scored by the Japanese Forces on the Yunnan front before the encirclement cordon was completed around the Chungking 36th Division and other troops toward evening on October 16.

Besides, considerable amounts of war spoils were captured, including three guns, one heavy trench mortar, one heavy machine-gun, five light machine-guns, 54 rifles and many rounds of ammunition as well as provisions.

According to enemy troopers captured, the commander of the enemy 36th Division had already fled to the area west of the Nu River on October 15. These captives also revealed that a part of the enemy troops, moreover, had suffered 300 casualties at Lunma, 60 kilometers northwest of Tengyueh.

Judging from the reports of these war prisoners, the enemy seems to have suffered more losses than those so far ascertained by the Japanese side.

State Council Set Up In Philippines

President Jose P. Laurel, at the opening of the six-day special session of the National Assembly on October 18, announced the formation of a Council of State and a National Planning Board—two important executive organs which will help to carry out vital administrative policies of the new government.

The Council of State will be headed by Ramon Avancena, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and member of the Preparatory Commission for Philippine Independence. President Laurel said that the Council of State is being created in accordance with the constitutional mandate, adding that this organ will advise the President on matters of state.

Meanwhile the Philippines Government announced on October 20 that Ciaro M. Recto, former Education and Welfare Minister, has been appointed the first Foreign Minister of the Republic of the Philippines.

Direk Is Appointed Thai Foreign Chief

Direk Jaiyanama, former Thai Ambassador to Japan, has been appointed the new Foreign Minister of Thailand, replacing Wichit Wichit-Wathakan, newly appointed Thai Ambassador to Tokyo, the Thai Government announced on October 21.

It was also disclosed that while Foreign Minister Direk is recuperating from his illness, Justice Minister T. Thamrong Nawasawat would concurrently hold the post of Foreign Minister.

The outgoing Foreign Minister Wichit was relieved of his post under date of October 18 and was officially appointed Ambassador to Japan.

Exchange of Internees Is Completed

The exchange of Japanese and American nationals who were brought to Murmagao by the Teia Maru and the Gripsholm commenced on October 19 and was completed in two hours. The M.S. Gripsholm arrived in port on October 17 carrying the Japanese repatriates including Kiyoshi Yamagata, Japanese Minister to Chile, 14 other Japanese officials and 1,500 tons of Red Cross cargo intended for American internees in Japanese territory.

The Teia Maru reached Murmagao on October 15 with anti-Axis and neutral civilians aboard.

Six States Incorporated Into Thai Territory

The four States of North Malai, namely, Kedah, Kelantan, Trengganu and Perlis, and the two Shan States were formally incorporated into Thai territory on October 19. The move was effected in accordance with the agreement made by Japan with Thailand thus manifesting the fulfilment of Japan's moral pledge to that country.

At early dawn on that day, the Thai Army marched peacefully into the capitals of the four northern Malai States.

Rising Sun flags gave place to Thai national flags in the capitals of these States as the Thai troops took over control and the Thai emblems flapped in the breeze as though they were bestowing benedictions on their new occupants. The Thai troops were greeted with spontaneous enthusiasm of the inhabitants of the cities who waved miniature Japanese and Thai national flags.

Nanking Given 52 More Items of Foe Assets

With necessary preparations completed, the transfer to the National Government of China of 52 additional items of enemy properties in the Shanghai and Nanking areas was carried out at the Astor House in Shanghai on October 20 with due ceremony.

The 52 items of enemy assets included 21 relating to business enterprises and 31 cultural properties.

Since the Imperial Government of Japan announced the transfer to China of new enemy assets on February 8 of this year, steady progress has been made in the procedures. The first ceremony for the transfer of 84 items of cultural assets and 26 relating to business enterprises was held on March 29.

Moscow Conference Gets Under Way

As Anglo-American-Soviet conferences swung into action at Moscow on October 19 in the first full-dress conference of the foreign ministers of the three countries, reports from Washington and London are sharply contrasted on the question what would be discussed at Moscow.

Several British papers in London including the Yorkshire Post and the News Chronicle echoed the last opinion of the Soviet journals, the Pravda and the Izvestia, which persistently claimed "the second front first".

In Washington meanwhile, the American wish is typically expressed by the Associated Press which revealed that Secretary of State Cordell Hull has acknowledged that the conference should deal with political questions, which would arise after the war or the conference should at least establish a framework on such questions.

Other commentators opine that as the conference gets under way, they see an increased danger that the present schism between the American and Soviet viewpoints may be widened instead of being liquidated.

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THAI LEADER'S WIFE ATTAINS 40TH YEAR

Lieutenant-Colonel La-iat Phibun Plays Big Role in Leading Nation's Womanhood

By PHROT PHUTTHINAN
Tokyo Correspondent for Nikorn, Bangkok Chronicle and Suphab Satri, Bangkok, Thailand

At many important ceremonies and functions in Bangkok and other parts of Thailand is present a smart, well-clad, modest, amiable, youthful-looking woman of 40, sometimes accompanying Field-Marshal Premier P. Phibun Songkhram and at other times alone. On certain occasions she is seen dressed in a military uniform, at others in civilian dress, depending on the nature of the occasion. When at home she is busy cooking in the kitchen, attending to her children or otherwise engaged in domestic work.

This person is Lieutenant-Colonel La-iat Phibun Songkhram, wife of the Premier of Thailand, who today, celebrates her 40th birthday, and who, next to the Premier himself, is the most remarkable figure in the national life of the country.

Born on October 25, 1903, Lady La-iat studied at a girls' school from which she graduated and became a teacher. She was married to the Thai Premier when the latter was an officer in the artillery regiment. An enthusiastic cooperator with her husband in every phase of his activities ever since marriage, Lady La-iat has been a tower of strength to the Thai leader in carrying out his varied and difficult administrative duties, especially since the outbreak of the present war.

Plays Big Role

Her activities in the interests of the nation are so vast that they cannot all be mentioned here in detail, but most important of all she stands as the leader of the country's womanhood playing a role far beyond the utmost capacities of an ordinary woman. She is the leader of the Thai Women's Institute of Culture, patron of many bodies including an association for helping large families in the education and upbringing of their children, an active participant in voluntary Red Cross work and a tireless worker in educating Thai women in the military field. She also holds posts in many other organizations for strengthening Thailand's wartime structure.

Lady La-iat is the one woman most responsible for the progressive nature of Thai women today who, solely as a result of her efforts, are now highly cultured, educated, well dressed, well mannered, modest and polite. The means of this achievement has been the Women's Institute of Culture, part of whose work is to impart to women cultural, social, domestic and other education. As a result of the notable work of this institute, within a very short period, Thailand's womanhood has been metamorphosed into a progressive, capable body working wonders on the home front.

She is immensely popular among the women of the country who look up to her as their ideal. This is not to be wondered at for, in spite of her enormous activities outside the home, she never neglects her domestic duties. She is an ideal mother who attends to the care of her children personally, cooks her husband's food with her own hands, no matter where he be, at home, on tour of the country, or at the front, for, she always accompanies the Premier wherever he goes.

Whenever occasion arises, she makes a speech or a broadcast, in which she never fails to impress upon the minds of the nation's women their duty on the home front, she stresses the fact that it is as much their task to guard and defend their country and lead it on to ever greater heights of glory as it is of those fighting on the war fronts. Toward this end, she also now and then composes and broadcasts or contributes poems to newspapers and other journals whose themes are aimed at pushing the progress and nation-consciousness of the nation's women, some exhort the warriors on the front.

Is Dynamic Leader

This dynamic leader of Thailand's fair sex never tires of attending the various ceremonies and functions, at which her presence means so much, no matter how many there may be and how often. Here we can see her faith and loyalty to her duty.

One other field in which her tireless efforts have yielded noteworthy results is that of the military education of women so that they may, as much as their brothers, be prepared for the defense of their country. After the establishment of the Women's Cadet College, she poured her energies into the work of making the country's women strong and well-trained soldiers. She constantly visits the cadet college where she exhorts the students and guides them.

Recognizing her services to the state, His Majesty the King of Thailand, on July 14, 1942, awarded Lady La-iat the honorary titles of Lieutenant-Colonel and Aide-de-Camp.

Celebrates Birthday

Madame La-iat Phibun

How ardent she is for uniting the whole nation into one solid, impregnable body can be seen from a speech she recently made at a National Flag-Raising ceremony in Bangkok on the occasion of the culture fair under the auspices of the Women's Institute of Culture. She declared, in part: "If we do not see our National Flag it is just the same as if we all were buried under the ground without any hope of seeing daylight anymore. But at present Thailand's good fortune persists in growing day by day and the 'Trairong' (three-color, Thai National Flag) is proudly waving over the kingdom. All of us, both women and men of all ages, must pay respects to the National Flag and further rouse our love for the Nation, work for our benefit and also for the benefit of the Nation."

In spite of her immense popularity, she has never changed from the modest, amiable, good-natured and kind soul that she was in her young days. Even now anyone can go and talk with her, or get help when in need. Sometimes she goes out among the peasants and other poor people in the neighborhood of her home and talks to them inquiring after their welfare or sends them presents of money or large quantities of meat or other foodstuffs. Pride or vanity she has absolutely none.

Notwithstanding the busy time she has daily, she frequently enjoys a game of tennis, at which she is by no means a beginner, or indulges in other healthy forms of sport.

She often attends ceremonies at temples to pray for the prosperity of the country.

On this happy occasion of her 40th birthday, it is our ardent wish and prayer that she may continue to be a great pillar of strength to her husband, the Premier of Thailand, and enable him to lead the country to glorious victory in this titanic war.

The Famine in India

(Continued from Page 4)

high prices of agricultural products, the farmers who are directly concerned with production deriving practically no benefit. Even though the cash income of farmers may increase more or less, they are soon denuded of the increased portion of their income by their creditors—landowners and usurers. Accordingly, the effects of inflation on landowners, merchants and usurers are entirely different from those on farmers.

For farmers, there is only the increase of expenditure with no corresponding increase of income. The result is their increased impoverishment. In Indian agricultural communities, self-sufficiency economy of the medieval type has not yet crumbled completely, and as, in consequence, the filtration of inflation is slow, the decline of the purchasing power of farmers is not so marked as that of urban laborers. The effects of inflation on them cannot nevertheless be ignored.

The purchasing power of the Indian populace, which has ever been very low, has been lowered still by inflation, while, on the other hand, the price of food has been forced up by the circumstances already described. It is inevitable in such circumstances that the famine situation should come about.

Inasmuch as the food problem is closely related to inflation, its solution depends a great deal on the measures to be taken to cope with inflation. The Indian Government is drawing up remedial measures, but no steps hitherto taken have produced any tangible results.

Since the food famine in India is ascribable to the causes enumerated, remedial measures must necessarily be sought along the lines of the prohibition of the exports of foodstuffs, increased importation of foodstuffs, increased food production at home and better control of distribution. In fact, the Indian Government has been directing earnest attention to these matters.

(To Be Continued)

FOE TRYING TO DRAG NEUTRALS INTO WAR

Attempts to Make Up for Lack Of Fighting Power; Badoglio Clique Gloomy

The frantic attempts of the anti-Axis nations to force the neutral countries into the war now that they realize that their fighting power lacks the punch to upset the Axis, is pointed out by Dr. Minoru Maida, in the October number of the Jitsugyo no Nihon. He also reveals the inherent weakness of the Anglo-American Powers, namely, that their fundamental interests differ.

Dr. Maida also stressed the fact that the breakdown of Badoglioan Italy was to a large extent due to Anglo-American intrigue, and now King Victor Emmanuel, Marshal Pietro Badoglio and not a small part of the people must regret the stand they took.

His article follows:

Today, with the war in Europe in its fifth year and the War of Greater East Asia nearing the end of its second year, America and Britain have become uneasy because their war record is not what they would wish it to be. And, as they are trying to make up for their lack of fighting power by intrigue, their political machinations require careful watching by the Axis nations in spite of the fact that these enemy acts have been exposed as cowardly and vile.

Where Anglo-American intrigue was strangely effective, the case of Italy must be pointed out as the most outstanding. What brought Italy to such a miserable end? The answer is that Anglo-American intrigue was responsible in the greater part.

Instead of a return of peace, Italy has had its territory turned into a decisive battlefield in the fight between Germany and the Anglo-American Powers, and has been enveloped in ravages of war. It is probable that Badoglio, the Italian King, and not a small part of the Italian people are regretting that they allowed themselves to fall prey to Anglo-American machinations.

Now, America and Britain, having succeeded in Italy, are at the height of elation, and are trying to attain their original aim in the Balkans. They are moving in this direction because, once they gain a solid footing in Italy, the Balkans could be used as a route of advance against the European fortress.

That is why America and Britain have begun to direct their intrigue toward Bulgaria and Turkey. Particularly, they tried to move Bulgaria, which is united with Germany and Japan, with their usual honeyed words.

Bulgaria allied itself with the Axis in March, 1941. And, because the Bulgarians are a simple and strong agricultural people, and because they fought to the end in the last war as Germany's ally, Reichsfuehrer Adolf Hitler places the utmost trust in them. But the Italian diversion seemed to America and Britain a good chance for a Bulgarian diversion from the Axis.

That was because the ex-Queen of Bulgaria was the daughter of King Victor Emmanuel of Italy. She married the late Bulgarian King in October, 1930. It was not without reason that the Anglo-American Powers sought to find an advantageous opening especially when the former Queen was influential as the mother of the six year-old Crown Prince Simeon.

Honeyed Anglo-American words, however, as well as their propaganda can be said to have ended in failure in that country. That was because the Bulgarian Premier, Dr. Bogdan Filov, who concluded the treaty with Germany, had held his post firmly for three and a half years, and because Prince Cyril had been newly made Regent.

America and Britain are working still harder in the case of Turkey. Turkey straddles both Asia and Europe, and the trend of its future policy is important because it controls the Bosporus Strait and the Dardanelles.

That being the case, Britain circulated rumors of Italian designs on a part of Asiatic Turkey, and after causing Turkey to become worried, it succeeded in concluding the British-Turkish mutual-assistance pact of May, 1939. Italy, however, did nothing, and Turkey soon turned cold.

Later, with the spreading of the European conflict, Turkey began to experience difficulties in purchasing weapons and other munitions, as well as food. America then appeared on the scene, and by making use of the Lend-Lease Act, it began to supply Turkey with weapons and other supplies.

America and Britain are directing their intrigue toward Turkey.

The Turkish President Ismet Inonu, however, desires neutrality. That is because, in addition to the fact that Turkey would not gain anything by entering the war, it would face the danger of an invasion by the Bulgarian forces on its European side.

Anglo-American intrigue is also at work in Iran and Portugal, as well as in Spain, Hungary and the Argentine, where no success is being scored.

It was because they controlled the military affairs and transportation in Iran, that they forced the Iranian Government, against its will, to declare war on Germany on September 9.

Though the Americans have worked for a long time in Hungary, their machinations apparently have ended in failure.

It is not hard to understand why Anglo-American propaganda is showing itself to be considerably effective in Portugal. Portugal has been an ally of Britain ever since the days of the Crusades, and has always depended on it economically and politically. The fact that Portugal, which has no naval strength, continues to hold a few overseas possessions is due to the support of the British navy. However, it is fortunate that the Portuguese Premier Dr. Antonio de Oliveira Salazar refuses to succumb to the machinations of America and Britain.

It must be noted, however, that in August and September, Britain increased its pressure on Portugal and is trying to draw it to its side.

The British are doing this because the Portuguese own Timor in the South Pacific, and because they think that it would be to their advantage should they succeed in bringing Portugal on their side.

The Anglo-American Powers are also at work in Spain and trying to bring about an internal breakdown in the pro-Axis elements in the Franco Government.

Among the nations upon which America and Britain are at work, the case of Argentina, the only neutral nation in South America, is alone different. Argentina is that courageous nation which opposed America when it tried to make it sever relations with Japan, Germany and Italy. But America has been applying persistent pressure on Argentina. Constant friction has taken place between the two nations, with America, in September, protesting against the arrest by the Argentine police of an American employe of an American-capitalized power company.

In this connection, it is interesting to note that although both America and Britain are trying to draw Argentina into the war, their fundamental interests are not the same. This reflects the strong selfishness of America and of Britain.

As long as the war continues the enemy will continue to carry on such operations as have been outlined above. The Axis nations, which are far superior to the enemy in armed power, must effect full counter-measures against these enemy machinations.

U Wisara's Courageous Fight For Freedom of Burma Told

Buddhist Leader Struck Boldly at Foundation of British Rule—Stirred His Countrymen to Battle Against Foreign Master

The history of Burma is replete with glorious and defiant struggles for freedom.

On September 15 of every year, the people of Burma celebrate the anniversary of the death of one of their great and valiant independence leaders, U Wisara, who offered his life in stubborn resistance against the diabolical hypocrisy of ruthless British imperialism.

His stirring life which today is inspiring new and undying faith in the Burmese people was related by Wunthanu Saya Sein, in an article appearing recently in the Greater Asia. The story follows:

The man who was one day to bring Burmese hatred of British misrule to such high pitch was born on the 8th waning of Hnaung Tagu in the year 1250 B.E. of U Pya and Daw Zalat at Kan-naint village in Monywa Township. He entered the Buddhist Brotherhood of Sanghas quite early and in 1282 B.E. he was actually lecturing a huge class in Buddhist literature at the Mahawithutayama Kyaungtaik in Pakokku, when the Sangha Samaggi (Priests' Union Association) sprang up all the country over. It was the time of the great political awakening and both priests and laymen, in their new consciousness, were indignant with the evil methods of the British rulers. Even the busiest priests whose time was completely taken up with religious studies and practices were attracted by the new awakening which exposed British evil intentions and ill-treatment in all their ghastly nakedness.

U Wisara, the priest who was one day, by giving up his life for a righteous cause, to expose the entire British nation to the wide world for what it really stood, was no exception. The new fervor that had possessed an entire people and fired their imagination and consequently driven them to utter restlessness possessed him also.

He made a resolution that soon became the regular feature of the day. He resolved to defend the Buddhist religion at all costs against British persecution. He accepted, in common with others, the idea that only when the country prospered would the people be happy and content and only when the people were happy and content would religion of the Lord Buddha thrive. That realiation involved the priesthood in a political struggle which had for its objective, in so far as priesthood was concerned, a religious revival as well.

Plunges Into Politics

U Wisara then plunged headlong into politics. He even went to India both on religious and political missions and worked actively at the Gaya Session of the Indian National Congress.

This had caused a frown, a deep one—we may depend on it, in British official quarters and when in the month of Thadingyut of the year 1288 B.E. he was on the eve of delivering a speech at the Danaw-Nyaunggon village in Tharrawaw area, a summons was served on him forbidding him under Section 144 from delivering any speech in Tharrawaddy District.

That summons contained a highly objectionable form of expression which should never have been applied to a severed priest. It opened with the word: "Maung-min-nar-gan-ya-myi" (i.e. you shall obey) against which ill-mannered usage several sessions of the Sangha Samaggi (Unions of Buddhist Priests) had passed unanimous resolutions of condemnation in plain and unequivocal terms.

And yet the Britishers paid no heed. They persisted in their irreverential, nay, grossly insulting form of address.

Defies Government Order

U Wisara there and then decided to protest against it effectively and saw his opportunity arrive when that summons came. He duly defied the British Government's order by going about his business as scheduled.

He addressed his audience in a high pitch eulogising the civil disobedience movement as conducted by Mahatma Gandhi while in South Africa. He graphically explained how 4,000 Indians led by the Mahatma defied the unjust order of the British and how they had triumphed.

He later went to Ye-ngan village and while waiting for a car to take him to Okpo he was placed under arrest and sent up for trial. Needless to say he was found guilty and sentenced to two months' rigorous imprisonment under Section 188. He was kept in Rangoon Central Jail. A day before his term of imprisonment expired, he was taken to Tharrawaddy jail where he spent the night. On the next day he was released.

Just as he was leaving the prison gates, he was again placed under arrest on a charge of sedition under Section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code for having delivered "highly seditious" speeches at Danaw-Nyaunggon and Inywa villages.

He was detained there indefinitely and as the Full Moon Day of Pyatho approached, he asked the Deputy Commissioner to give him leave to proceed to a sima where priests, in accordance with the instructions of the Lord Buddha, observe their Sabbath. The Deputy Commissioner quite promptly rejected the application as unpermissible. This led U Wisara to go on a hunger strike as a mark of protest. The jail authorities were openly alarmed. They kept the Deputy Commissioner informed of his condition and when four days had passed without the illustrious prisoner having any particle of food or even water, the Deputy Commissioner himself came and tried to dissuade. But U Wisara was already on the war-path and he was fully determined to give his life on what every Buddhist would regard as a matter of very high principle. He said he must be granted permission to observe the Sabbath in true priestly fashion.

Medical authorities saw he was fast sinking and so alarmed were they that U Wisara was taken in a car to Rangoon the next evening. At the Rangoon jail he was placed under the strictest medical attention. Entreaties and threats were of no avail. He stuck to the original resolution and remained resolutely firm. Forty days passed without any food and his condition if anything was far worse. He was actually wearing out his life in dire peril.

Meanwhile, the large Buddhist public was deeply concerned with his condition and passed resolutions demanding instant compliance with his demand or demands.

Demand Acceded

The British Government found itself in a hole and was compelled to accede at last to his demand. He was finally permitted to observe.

U Wisara had spent six months at the Rangoon Central Jail when he was summoned to appear before the Insein Court. He refused to obey and was forcibly removed by a European District Superintendent of Police. The Court heard the case but U Wisara refused to speak. He was accordingly sentenced to one year and nine months' rigorous imprisonment and taken back to the Rangoon Jail.

Thus ensued a battle between a bullying power and a brave soul. As soon as he entered his cell, he was forced to abandon his yellow robes and to don prison clothes. But U Wisara said he was a priest and he could not, under any circumstances, put on any other wear except what was prescribed by Buddha. The jail authorities engaged the menials to forcibly remove the robes. But they failed and three Europeans entered the cell and used every violence to accomplish their mean task. U Wisara was still very weak after his long fast and he had spent all the strength available. He found that the three ruffians were too many for him and finally had to give in. But he did the only thing possible: he refused to put on jail clothes and remained naked just as he was left.

A New Determination

A new determination had fallen upon him. He realized that the British Government was capable of doing anything to violate the sacred sanctity of the noblest of religions. He found that he must give battle to put a stop to such diabolical persecution. And he found that he was without any adequate weapon.

He had only one course left for him. That was to resume his fast.

Seven days later the jail medical authorities came and chained him down and forcibly fed him down the nose, as the mouth was shut. Forty days later U Wisara became more dead than alive. He was no more in a condition to speak much less to move. He was bordering upon death, when for purely selfish reasons the jail authorities had him removed to the Mental Hospital at Tadagale to rid themselves of a grave responsibility.

The reception was if anything far worse here. The authorities used the most violent and obscene language imaginable. They were determined to force the already more dead than alive prisoner to obey their dictum. They fastened him to a rough bed and kicked him right and left. Not content with all these "ministrations," they slapped him in the face—they slapped a man who could not resist, even if he willed, and he never did raise a finger in protest or self-defense.

And yet the noble priest, his physical strength long lost, did not give up his determination. He remained resolute which only maddened the authorities far more.

They employed every force at their command and they found even that would not move the weakened prisoner to abandon his resolution.

After suffering hardships and privations for six and a half months, he was permitted to put on the priestly robes. At last he had won the battle—at least the first round of it. That was on the Full Moon Day of Nadaw in the Burmese Year 1289.

Two months later, for no conceivable reason, he was again forcibly disrobed and sent back to the Rangoon Central Jail—naked as when he left. He was put to the same trials and he stood the test until on the 6th waxing day of Tabaung, he was permitted again to use the robes. He was then instantly removed to Midnapur jail in Bengal (India) where the European Jail Superintendent tried to disrobe him. But U Wisara firmly held his ground. He was taken to Rangoon and released from jail on the 6th waning day of Taboung, 1290 B.E.

U Wisara became a more determined politician than when he was first imprisoned. He now had a stronger case against British ruthlessness and plunged headlong into the opposing camp. He travelled extensively on religious and political tours and addressed huge meetings.

Arrested Again

On the 13th waning day of Tabaung 1291 B.E. (a year after his release), he was at the jetty preparing to embark on a steamer bound for Calcutta when he was placed under arrest under Section 144 and taken to the Rangoon Jail awaiting trial. He refused to take the prison-food as he did not hold himself to be sentenced prisoner. He maintained that he was only being detained and as such was entitled to arrange for his own food from outside.

The jail authorities, as before, refused to comply. U Wisara thereupon embarked himself upon another hazardous journey: he went on hunger-strike and demanded two further points. They were (1) To permit the prisoner priests who remain priests to wear robes; and (2) to permit these priests to observe Sabbath in strictly prescribed fashion twice a month.

He knew that this time he would have to give his very life to win the fight.

Eighty-one days passed without him getting any nearer to victory. Eighty-one days without a single particle of food had weakened him so much so that he was unable to stand up. He was to appear before the Hanthawaddy Court of Sessions but he was unable to do so. How could he?

The trying magistrate had to be asked to examine him in his cell. Needless to say, the sentence passed was severer than it would ordinarily be. He was sentenced to be transported to the Andaman Island there to serve a term of six years' rigorous imprisonment.

An attempt was again made to take away his robes. He was too exhausted that he could not even argue much less to resist. He was left in his nakedness.

A Tragic Sight

I was then Editor of the Wunthanu, and in that capacity obtained accurate information as to his condition. I applied for permission which was granted to see him. It was on the 13th waxing of Wagaung 1292 B.E. when I was ushered into his presence, I saw only a heap of skeletons sprawling on a small bed. Was it a dead body or a living one? After all, had the jail authorities been wrong in bringing me here? To satisfy my doubts, my companion assured me that what I saw was U Wisara himself, no less, and very much alive!

The flesh—wait, was there any flesh? No, it must be the skin. Yes, the skin had shrunken until it could no longer shrink, its course interrupted by the bones, over which it rested dubiously.

I could not believe the sight before one, I could not believe that British justice could have brought such a physically strong and well-built man as U Wisara to this!

And yet, right in front of me, was the proof, clear and conclusive, if what the so-called British justice was capable of doing.

Never more pained was I in all my life. Nor had I seen a more painful sight before or ever since.

U Wisara bade me come closer, and muttered inaudibly, "I believe I'm going to die in 45 days or so. I'm giving my life for the cause of my country and religion just as the good old monks of Pataliputtara did years before me. Do you take care of our country and our religion. Do you be valiant enough, do you be wise enough, after I'm gone?"

I left the cell, but that tragic sight and scene never left my memory. It was fixed for ever in my mind, his words still ringing in my ears.

After me, nobody was allowed to see him. News came that he had been permitted to wear the robes; that was acceding, indeed, to one-half of his demands. But a still more important other half remained. He was not permitted to observe the Sabbath.

He knew that his end was approaching near. But did he bend? Far from it. He persisted so much and so long that on the second waning day of Tawthalin 1292 B.E. he passed away—a victim of British tyranny and a stubborn fighter for freedom both religious and political, only worthy of the Hall of Immortals which no Britisher would dare to besmirch with all his cunning and craft diplomacy and damnation.

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TOKYO, MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1943

The 83rd Session of the Imperial Diet

Unusual significance is to be attached to the 83rd Extraordinary Session of the Imperial Diet to be convened today, the fourth extraordinary session since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, for it is being called at a time when the situation both at home and abroad is undergoing a drastic change.

Recently the Government has decided on epochal measures calculated to bolster the nation's fighting strength, such as the overhauling of the central administrative structure, the reform of the educational system, the readjustment and revamping of national movements, and the tightening of home defense, which are now being carried out with satisfactory dispatch. The present session of the Diet will serve to solicit the wide-spread support of the nation at large to these measures, while their practical execution will be further facilitated by the introduction by the Government of fourteen important legislative bills, including the Munitions Companies Bill and the Budget. Incidentally, the Munitions Companies Bill is to be regarded with special importance as presaging a reorganization in the national economy to meet the decisive stage which the war situation has entered.

Naturally, the most important task before the Government at the current session of the Diet is to acquaint the nation thoroughly with the realities of the current situation, to arouse the national fighting spirit to the highest pitch, and to organize the national strength in such a way as to ensure the utmost efficiency in the conduct of the war. To achieve this vitally important end, it is incumbent upon the Diet to make the people understand fully and correctly the imperativeness of the reform measures undertaken by the Government and the legislative bills which are to be submitted.

In view of the fact that the Diet will have only three days in which to deliberate on the legislative bills, there has been a strong popular demand for preliminary deliberations. Accordingly, the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, especially its Political Affairs Investigation Committee, has already been conducting such preliminary deliberations and thereby extending unusually enthusiastic cooperation to the Government.

Speaking of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, it is to be noted that the Association, since its reorganization in the spring of this year, has been making a point of cooperating with the Government through the permanent establishment of offshoot bodies in the Diet. The Diet Committee of the Association, which performed such a valuable function during the last 82nd Session of the Diet, will be re-appointed, which augurs well for the satisfactory operation during the present session likewise.

It requires no reiteration that the war we are fighting is unprecedented in its magnitude and that its outcome will decide the destiny not only of Japan but of all the peoples of Greater East Asia. Thanks to the initial brilliant victories, Japan's military situation has been made secure, while the peoples of Greater East Asia have been liberated from the yoke of Anglo-American imperialism. With Japan's magnanimous help, China has regained her position of international equality, while Burma and the Philippines have realized their long-cherished aspiration of independence. The foundation of the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere has thus been solidified.

But we should not rest on our laurels. The happy state prevailing in Greater East Asia must be retained, further promoted and, above all, rendered impregnable against the Anglo-American tentacles of aggression. It is for the execution of this supreme mission that the Government has launched the epochal measures already referred to. There is no doubt that the Diet, on its part, will leave nothing undone to assist the Government to the utmost in the successful mobilization of the national strength in the desired direction.

The Presidential Campaign And Pearl Harbor

With the 1944 Presidential campaign in the immediate offing it is interesting to note the revived Republican demand for a court martial of Admiral Kimmel and Lieutenant-General Short in connection with the Pearl Harbor debacle nearly two years after the event, and the determined opposition on the part of United States Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox and Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson to reopening the matter at this time.

Obviously, of course, publicity given to the grave dereliction of duty on the part of highly placed army and navy officers involved in the crushing disaster cannot be conducive to heightening American morale. But the real reason for opposition to the court martial, which the accused parties are themselves demanding, must be sought elsewhere.

It has long been generally suspected that should the case be brought to public trial, the responsibility of considerably higher placed persons than these two officers would be unavoidably involved. Current indications from America go to show that this is indeed the case. That attack on Pearl Harbor was fully anticipated in America, and certainly not one which could have taken the American command in Hawaii unawares as claimed by the United States, is freely admitted in the Roberts Report. Secretary of State Cordell Hull has moreover himself confirmed his own responsibility in the matter on more than one occasion. On November 25 and 28, 1941, just before and immediately after his final note of November 26 was handed to Ambassadors Nomura and Kurusu, Hull's conviction that this note ended all possibility of diplomatic and peaceful negotiations with Japan was plainly voiced in his own statements to high officials of the American Government that there was practically no possibility of an agreement any longer being achieved and in his clearly expressed opinion that any American plans should include an assumption that Japanese strategy might center on the element of surprise. Again on November 29 Hull's statement to the British Ambassador at Washington informing him that the "diplomatic part of our relations with Japan was virtually over and that the matter will now go to the officials of the Army and Navy" is the clearest possible indication that he fully understood the ultimatory nature of his infamous note, and that he knew only too well that by its presentation the outbreak of hostilities was deliberately made inevitable.

No American sophistry can, therefore, remove the responsibility from the shoulders of the authors of this note, Messrs Hull and Roosevelt themselves, either for the outbreak of these hostilities or for the failure to take all necessary measures to forestall the anticipated attack on Hawaii and avoid this first crushing blow in the war they had worked so indefatigably to bring about.

Now, the American temper is not such that it would permit either Kimmel or Short to submit to the whitewashing of their chiefs at their own expense. It is in this sense that the move sponsored by Republican representatives promoting these gentlemen to demand their own court martial at this time in the obvious Republican hope of discrediting Roosevelt before the next elections, as well as the Roosevelt instigated counter-move to delay the trial at least until the elections are safely over, arouse nothing but amused interest here.

Indeed, in this country where the sense of responsibility is seriously taken, where any dereliction of duty that might involve Japan in even a minor disaster, let alone a major catastrophe such as Pearl Harbor, would be followed not by attempts at blame-shifting but by certain suicide of those directly or indirectly concerned and at least the resignation from high public office of any who could be considered even remotely connected with it, such self-seeking, irresponsible comedy moves as are now being made in America in relation to a national calamity of the first magnitude take on the aspect of almost inconceivably grotesque buffoonery.

A Year Ago Today

October 25, 1942

In spite of all measures taken by the Washington Government in order to suppress labor trouble in the country, the situation is steadily growing worse. In accordance with the latest announcement by the Wartime Production Bureau, the total number of working days lost on account of labor disputes since January last is 1,713,000.

Medical Triumphs of The Japanese Army

(From the Shukan Asahi)

ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS

Army Surgeon Colonel Tomosada Masuda of the Army Medical School
Army Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel Hirobumi Osuzu of the Army Medical School
Army Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel Minoru Hiraga of the Medical Affairs Section of the War Ministry
Army Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel Goshichiro Takaura of the Army Medical School

HIRAGA: We firmly believe that the Japanese military medical science is one of the most advanced in the world. It is generally well known that Japanese medicine itself has progressed very far. The Japanese Army holds the greatest faith in the fact that it is the greatest Army in the world, and that its medical corps holds first place.

In wars, usually, judging from records of past conflicts, the losses suffered due to epidemics is far greater than that caused by military weapons. And this is especially true when fighting in the tropical zone. Colonel Masuda, could you please tell us something about this phase of the battle?

MASUDA: The deaths recorded by the Japanese due to epidemics have decreased with each war. During the Sino-Japanese War, of the total casualties of the Japanese, 45.8 per cent was caused by illnesses, while in the Boxer Uprising, this was reduced to 37.9 per cent and in the Russo-Japanese War to 14.7 per cent. In the course of the Manchurian Incident, 7.6 per cent died of contagious diseases, while in the War of Greater East Asia, the figure is below 1 per cent. Fighting in a zone where a step outside would mean virtual entrance into a nest of epidemic germs, the low percentage of illnesses can be attributed to the amazing advance of epidemic prevention by the sanitation corps of our Imperial Forces. The number of victims has decreased noticeably since the inauguration of the epidemic prevention water supply unit, of which there are two types, the field operating unit and the base unit. While they control the water supply of the Army, we are firmly convinced that a large-scale epidemic of the intestinal type will never break out on the battle-field. In order to maintain this standard, we have facilities which are unparalleled elsewhere in the world, and our enemies are most anxious to see our water supply installations. There are also some excellent facilities for prevention of epidemics. When the automobile units of the field medical inspection corps move into action, they become movable quarantine quarters. Here the units returning from bacteria-infested battle zones are thoroughly disinfected, and this in a very short time so that they would be in time for the next maneuvers.

TAKAURA: I saw a captured enemy water supply vehicle, but the capacity is quite different, isn't it?

MASUDA: A British water filter truck, taken during the Malai campaign, has arrived in this country, but it certainly doesn't stand up to the Japanese trucks. In the first place, our filters are able to handle over a hundred times the quantity of that of the enemy.

HIRAGA: The excellent and systematic way in which medical care is being given especially in the clinical aspects, lies in Army hospitalization system. This system includes the setting up of dressing stations along the firing line, or again dressing stations for the sanitation corps or the field hospital, or again the commissariat hospitals. These front line hospitals down to the Army hospitals built in the rear are integrated to form one complete system. This is a feature which can be found nowhere else in the world.

By receiving treatment through this system, the patient becomes whole in body and either returns to the front lines or re-enters society. Since a thorough education preparatory to departure from hospitals has been given to the patients, there is no such thing as a disabled soldier in this war.

TAKAURA: The establishment of a special hospital in the front lines is a most significant move, I think. This new facility deals mostly with broken bones.

It is said that of the war casualties, 30 per cent consists of broken bones, and the treatment of this on the front lines means a huge saving in fighting power.

And, finally is the point of special treatments, and in this respect, I think that in the present war, special chapters should be devoted to this achievement. After gathering the best of materials and knowledge, and after full preparations are made, treatment is extended to special, or serious patients. For instance, a bullet in the brain, which had been a very grave medical problem, can now be easily extricated without the least danger, and the same may be said of a wounded heart or lung.

HIRAGA: The delicate operation executed by Major-General Saito of the Army Medical School staff in a facial operation, is indeed an epochal event. Let us hear a little more about it.

TAKAURA: Yes, facial injuries are special too. For instance, even with the loss of an arm or a leg one is able to fulfil a job in a factory, but the loss of a nose or lips is indeed a tragedy.

And, after much study and meditation, Major-General Saito was able to create wonderful noses, ears, lips, and mouths. And he achieved this by taking the flesh from the arm, or again by removing the flesh around the ear to the arm to form the nose, or by taking a piece of cartilage from the ear and making a new bridge for the nose which is even better than a natural one. This is one the greatest achievements of this war, I think.

HIRAGA: There are even those who say that their new faces are better than their old ones. (Laughter)

HIRAGA: The making of artificial eyes has reached a high level in Japan. Of course, one can see with it, but in the case where one eye is artificial, the inserted eyeball is made so skilfully that one cannot positively say which is the natural one.

MASUDA: I met an officer who had lost an eye at Nomonhan but I did not know that one eye was artificial until quite recently. Of course, I thought there was something queer about his facial expression . . . (Laughter)

HIRAGA: There are any number of such cases. In fact, there are many with two artificial eyes. (Laughter)

REPORTER: I saw an item in the newspapers recently about the discovery of a new system of blood preservation.

TAKAURA: The problem of blood transfusion has advanced quite far in this war. And in the surgical society reports, not only in military fields but also in connection with national defense, the problem of blood transfusion is greatly stressed. Research is now being carried on concerning the possible use of animal blood, but this has not reached a practical stage yet.

But practical results have been attained with preserved blood. Blood is taken and put into a refrigerator for later use.

OSUZU: However, in case there is a donor on the spot, it is best to use his blood.

REPORTER: Is not Japan very far advanced in the creation of artificial arms and legs?

HIRAGA: Our deepest impressions are of the training given persons with artificial arms and legs. It is not amazing to see soldiers with one leg gone, riding bicycles on the city streets but there are those with both artificial legs who can also ride bicycles. They also do bayonet exercises, sword practice, wrestling, and all daily tasks.

OSUZU: In Mr. Hori's book "Blood Flows Through the Artificial Leg." there is this incident. Riding along the streets on a bicycle, a dog barking fiercely dashed up to a man, at which the man unconsciously raised his false leg, fearing he would be bitten. (Laughter) When it comes to such a point, there is no doubting that blood flows through it.

HIRAGA: Up to now, most of the battles had been fought in the areas north of the temperate zones such as Manchoukuo or China. We entered the Southern Region for the first time in the course of the War of Greater East Asia. Due to the activities of the epidemic prevention units and others, the epidemics of the tropics have been kept down to the lowest level possible. But we have not been able to escape entirely from malaria and dengue fever, which are inevitable illnesses of the South. Let us hear a little about internal diseases.

OSUZU: The story in my field is not very interesting. For I cannot relate any instates where by a single injection given a dengue patient restored his original vitality, or how a typhoid fever victim completely recovered. The number of those succumbing to contagious diseases has decreased gradually. But this is due to the endeavors of the epidemic prevention unit, and not to the recovery by those who had contracted it. It would be more correct to say that the figures have decreased because the epidemic prevention units would not let the men contract the diseases. (Laughter)

HIRAGA: Quinine, the best drug for the treatment of malaria is pro-

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BOLD FIGHTING SPIRIT OF JAPANESE RELATED

Loyalty to Throne Is Foremost Ideal

By HIRONORI NAGAOKA
(From the Seikai Orai)

It has been nearly two years since the war started, but we have had only one guerrila air raid which was out of all proportions to other air raids of today. All this we owe to the spirit of "honorable death" held by our officers and men.

To us mind and matter are one. It is the Anglo-Saxon way of thinking to separate them. To give life and movement to matter is done by the mind. At least as far as fighting force is concerned, there exists no material power aside from the spiritual one.

It is the spiritual power of our soldiers which is attacking the enemy; it is not the weapon that is beating the enemy, it is the spirit they put in it that is making the weapon work to the utmost.

"Gyokusai" or "honorable death" is the highest manifestation of the Japanese soldierly spirit. The anti-Axis soldiers consider it their duty to fight as long as proper conditions are provided, but as soon as these conditions fail, they think they have the right to surrender and be captured. This idea has its source in the right and duty of the individual and they cannot see that something holy exists in the national life beyond that of the individuals.

Loyalty Foremost

When the Japanese find death inevitable, it is not despair that he faces; but the power of death that arouses him. Difficulty and hardship increase the inherent valor and courage of the Japanese hundred folds by virtue of the indefatigable power of will, which in turn is nurtured by the spirit of loyalty to the Throne and stimulated by the sense of shame. Loyalty as conceived by the Japanese is at once morality and faith. If it is no more than morality, it would not enable the Japanese to rise above life and death, thereby attaining a position of calmness and resignation.

It is the greatest honor and satisfaction, as well as pleasure, for the Japanese to lay down his life in the cause of the nation. One who hesitates to die an honorable death cannot enjoy permanent life and is no better than a beast.

The Japanese view of death has been clearly manifested by the great Nanko. On the eve of his departure for the front in Hyogo where he was determined to fight his "last battle," he summoned Masatsura, his eldest son, before him in the village of Sakurai in Osaka. The description of the parting as given in the Taiheiki, written about 575 years ago, tells us how the great Nanko valued Honorable Death above anything else as proof of patriotism. The passage in the Taiheiki quotes the incident in the following vein:

"When I am killed in battle, the world will certainly fall into the hands of the Shogun. But, under no circumstances, must you surrender. Resist to the last man of our family and retainers. Shut yourself up in Mt. Kongo, and when the enemy attacks, fight bravely with bow and arrow like Yang Yu chi and with the spirit of loyalty surpassing that of Chi Hsin. You must not, in order to prolong your life for a while, depart from the path of loyalty which we have followed for so many years. To observe this testament after I am gone is the best way of discharging your duties to your parents."

The Bushi and Death

Another interpretation of death from the standpoint of Bushido or the way of Japanese knighthood is given simply but pertinently in the book of Hakagure, that "The Bushi should be proud of his valor and be prepared to die whenever the occasion arises." The determination to be inferior to none in martial art is stimulated by the sense of honor. The Book further says:

"A man is good for nothing who excells others in no respect. After all is said and done, man's life is but a span, and the greatest thing in life is to die a glorious death. The most powerful is no demon but is as human as ourselves. Therefore, there is no reason why you should be content to be inferior to others. If you rise with a firm determination to commit harakiri, if you fail to surpass any one whom you intend to surpass, you can readily surpass him. Once you are resolved to do anything, you should put it in hand right away. It is too slow a process to wait until opportunity offers itself through an accumulation of your casual achievements."

The above suggestion refers mainly to individuals, but it must apply equally at the present time to the Japanese people as a whole.

Japan rose in arms against the Anglo-Americans who had attempted to bring undue pressure to bear upon her. It will be remembered that Japan had to be content under the Washington Treaty with the inferior naval ratio of 3 as against 5 of the Anglo-Americans in point of armaments. Furthermore, America prohibited the export of scrap iron and oil with a view to ultimate conquest of Japan by dint of economic blockade.

Now there is nothing to deter our march forward. The productive power which the materialistic Americans vaunt so much can do very little before the Japanese, who manifest their sense of honor and their spirit of death in both scientific and industrial fields, culminating in enormously increased production of war materials of all description for the sole purpose of carrying the war of Greater East Asia to a victorious conclusion.

The Famine in India

By Our Political Commentator

Part II

The extensive hoarding of foodstuffs and the defective distribution of supplies necesarily cause a rise in food prices. The index number of wholesale food prices in Calcutta rose from 146 in January, 1941, to 411 in December, 1942. That is, the prices nearly trebled in the brief space of two years. This rate of advance in price is far higher than even that for metals which usually show a most pronounced rise in price in wartime, to say nothing of that for other commodities.

For the same interval, we note that the index number of general wholesale prices rose from 121 to 238 and that of the prices of metals from 186 to 302. Though the advance is quite remarkable in each case, it is less marked than that witnessed in food prices. And from the present acute food situation, it may well be inferred that there has been an even sharper rise in food prices lately.

The exorbitant rise in price is fatal to poor Indians. Even if the food supply were plentiful, they would be unable to buy enough food to keep body and soul together. This affirms the contention that the present Indian famine is due more to the relative shortage of food than to its absolute shortage.

The fact that the sharp rise of food prices is intensifying the famine brings the question of the purchasing power of the Indian populace to the fore. Were the Indian populace better off, the shortage of foodstuffs, as is now experienced, might not prove so disastrous in the effects. It is due to the abject poverty of the Indian populace that the sharp rise of food prices immediately throws the country into a serious state of famine.

What with the British policy of exploitation and the lingering fuedal system of production, the Indian people have always been condemned to indigence, but in the study of the present famine, it is necessary to take note of the fact that their poverty has become further accentuated sinc the outbreak of the present war. While enabling a section of Indian capitalists to gain enormous profits, on the one hand, the present war has reduced the Indian masses to a state of abject poverty through inflation. Their purchasing power which has never been high has gone lower and lower with the growth of inflation, and, faced by a rapid and inexorable rise in food prices, these poor Indian people are naturally finding it difficult to keep the wolf from the door. Nor is this all. Inflation further stimulates the rising tendency of food prices. Thus, it may be concluded that the Indian famine is attributable both to the shortage of food caused by various circumstances and to inflation.

Inflation and Food Problem

Inflation results inevitably from war. In advanced countries, however, it is possible to check inflation to some extent by control measures. Not so with India where many difficulties attend all forms of control.

Inasmuch as inflation in India is due to war, it is the same in nature as that with which all belligent countries are harassed. Its main causes are—

1. Defrayal of heavy war expenditure in order to cooperate with the anti-Axis Powers in the prosecution of the war.
2. Shortage of the goods usually imported from abroad, due both to the suspension of trade with the Axis Powers and to Britain's diminished exporting capacity.
3. The acute shortage of the supply of industrial goods of some kinds in consequence of the conversion of a section of industrial factories into those for the manufacture of war materials.

Of the above-mentioned causes, the most powerful factor contributory to inflation is the defrayal of enormous war funds. It is difficult to say, in the absence of reliable information, how much war expenditure India has been made to bear, but according to foreign telegrams, India's defense expenditure rapidly increased from 540,000,000 rupees for 1940 to 960,000,000 rupees for 1941, to 1,300,000,000 rupees for 1942 and 1,900,000,000 rupees for 1943. Besides, the Indian Government has been temporarily paying in lieu of the British Government the war expenditure chargeable to the latter.

Defrayals under this head amount to huge sums. Under the agreement signed between Britain and India in 1939, the British Government is to bear the extraordinary war expenditure (the ordinary expenditure to be borne by India) on account of the British troops stationed in India, the extraordinary expenditure on account of the Indian troops serving abroad, and a portion of the cost of the war materials imported are to be borne by the British Government. These items of expenditure expanded from £40,000,000 (533,000,000 rupees) for 1940-41 to 291,000,000 (3,880,000,000 rupees) for 1942-43. The Indian Government has been paying these huge expenses in lieu of the British Government.

Cause of Inflation

Such heavy defrayals cannot but cause an inflation of currency in circulation. There has, indeed, been a steady increase in the volume of bank notes in circulation since the outbreak of the present war. In May this year, it amounted to 6,250,000,000 rupees or an increase of 4,000,000,000 rupees compared with the end of 1939.

Bank Notes in Circulation in India
(In 1,000,000 rupees)

March, 1939	1,880
December, 1939	2,250
September, 1941	2,964
April, 1942	3,950
September, 1942	4,300
May, 1943	6,250

This remarkable inflation due to heavy war expenditure, coupled with the shortage of materials, forced up the commodity prices exceedingly. The index number of wholesale prices in Calcutta shows that the general average rose from 100 in August, 1939, to 238 in December, 1942. It is noticeable that the rate of advance in regard to goods in civilian demand is higher than that of the general average. And, as already mentioned, the food prices have witnessed a rise much bigger than those of other commodities.

The rise in the price of cotton goods has also been very remarkable. As will be seen from the following table, whereas the general average increased from 121 to 238 (96.7 per cent increase) in the period from January, 1941, to December, 1942, the price of cotton goods advanced from 129 to 344 (166.7 per cent increase) during the same interval.

Index Number of Wholesale Prices In Calcutta
(July, 1914—100)

	January, 1941	December, 1942
Sugar	138	231
Tea	197	293
Other provisions	146	411
Oil-seeds	101	199
Jute	59	98
Gunny sacks	108	150
Raw cotton	68	142
Cotton goods	129	344
Woollen and silk goods	160	171
Hide and leather	68	92
Metals	186	302
Average index number	121	238

The average index number has moved upward in line with the inflation of currency, the upward tendency becoming more pronounced since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, as the following table indicates:

Aug., 1939	100	June, 1942	181
Jan., 1941	121	Aug., 1942	192
Oct., 1941	151	Sept., 1942	208
Feb., 1942	154	Dec., 1942	238
Apr., 1942	157		

Retail Prices Rise

Detailed information regarding the index number of retail prices is not available, but a New York telegram to the London Times reports that there has been a bigger increase in retail prices than in wholesale prices.

How far has the income of the populace increased, then, to offset this big rise in commodity prices? In reply to a member in the House of Commons the other day, Amery, the Secretary of State for India, stated that the wages for laborers in the city of Bombay had witnessed a 75 per cent increase since the outbreak of the War. In view of defective labor legislation and the feeble influence of labor unions, it is likely that the rise in wages has been far smaller than Amery assured the Commons, but even if we may take his assurance at its face value, it will be seen that the increase in wages lags far behind the rise in commodity prices.

A Domei telegram from Lisbon under date of July 18 quoted the Time, the American weekly, as reporting that wages in India remain pegged to the prewar scale. This is most probably an overstatement of the actuality, but it is easy to suppose that whereas the advance of commodity prices is very rapid, the rise of wages is very slow, with the natural result that there has been a marked fall in real wages. Altogether, it is quite conceivable that the livelihood of Indian laborers which was wretched before the war already, has now deteriorated further.

On the other hand, it may appear at first sight that the income of Indian farmers has increased markedly due to the rise in the prices of foodstuffs, but to those who know anything about the class organization in Indian agricultural communities, it is obvious that landowners and cereal merchants are the only people to profit by

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